



ESCALATING MIGRATIONS IN PRESENT SCENARIO

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ABSTRACT

In today's increasingly interconnected world, international migration has become a reality that touches nearly all corners of the globe, often making distinctions between countries of origin, transit and destination obsolete. Migration is a complex process and has been a feature of human societies for many centuries. The favourite destinations are countries with a high standard of living and prosperity. The causes of migration are a series of push and pull factors; which either forcefully push someone into migration or attract them. Today's generation has an unprecedented potential to improve the well-being of the entire human family. Living and working in another country can provide fantastic opportunities, better lifestyle and experiential learning for a young person. At the same time, conflict, poverty, inequality and lack of decent jobs are among the reasons that compel people to leave their homes in search of better futures for themselves and their families. Migration has therefore, always been and will remain an inevitable part of the human experience. But, how can we talk about these types of issues if we don't have the facts? Therefore, the paper throws light on some of the factual issues and explores reasons why different people choose to migrate.

KEYWORDS: Migration, Immigration, Abroad, Push and Pull Factors.

INTRODUCTION:

In today's increasingly interconnected world, international migration has become a reality that touches nearly all corners of the globe, often making distinctions between countries of origin, transit and destination obsolete. The contemporary generation has an unprecedented potential to improve the well-being of the entire human family. An estimated 27 million young people worldwide, including many who are highly educated, often migrate. But, what are the reasons that young brave-hearts muster up the courage to leave their family and friends behind, and move to a new country in search for newer avenues?

Modern transportation has made it easier, cheaper and faster for people to move. Moreover, the mobiles and internet have made it feasible to access information. At the same time conflict, poverty, inequality and lack of decent jobs are among the reasons that compel people to leave their homes in search of better future for themselves and their families. With growing rates of unemployment, finding satisfying work is the toughest challenge that people, all around the globe, are facing. The focus on migration is bound to increase awareness of opportunities as well as the associated risks of migration. This in-turn will help young people to make the right choice and take a well-informed decision to successfully resolve the issues. However, encouraging young people to shift base to a new country in search of work may not be a long term solution. Our governing bodies, institutions and organizations, need to fore-see the long term repercussions of this ongoing 'brain drain' of young talent. It could exacerbate to further talent shortage in our country and thus, hamper our economic growth. Hence, employers, government, educators and young people need to work together to create a sustainable talent pipeline.

The changes in the volumes of immigration have been accompanied by changes in their breakdown by categories. In particular, family-linked immigration (accompanying families and family reunion) has increased in Australia, France, Sweden and the United States, while employment-related immigration has risen in Canada and the United Kingdom. Recently, however, the salient features have been the rise in worker migration, temporary workers in particular.

MIGRATION:

Migration (human) is the movement of people from one place in the world to another for the purpose of taking up permanent or semi-permanent residence, usually across a political boundary. People can either choose to move (voluntary migration) or be forced to move (involuntary migration).

Migration is a complex process and has occurred throughout human history, beginning with the movements of the first human groups from their origins in East Africa to their current location in the world.

TYPES OF MIGRATION:

- Internal Migration: Moving to a new home within a state, country or continent.
- External Migration: Moving to a new home in a different state, country, or continent.
- Emigration: Leaving one country to move to another (e.g., the Pilgrims emigrated from England). According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the

term emigration refers to the process by which a person leaves his place or country of residency, to relocate elsewhere.

- Immigration: Moving into a new country (e.g., the Pilgrims immigrated to America). According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the term immigration is a noun used to describe the process by which a person moves into a country for the purpose of establishing residency.

WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE?

More and more people are leaving their homes, hoping to find better conditions or opportunities to live elsewhere such as jobs, higher wages, safety or freedom of expression. The increase in global mobility enables an ever-growing number of people to reach distant countries or other continents. Their favourite destinations are countries with a high standard of living and prosperity. People move for a variety of reasons. To say that most people migrate to find better opportunities is somehow stating the obvious. Some people choose to migrate, e.g. someone who moves to another country to enhance his career opportunities. On the other hand, some people are forced to migrate, e.g. someone who moves due to war or famine.

PUSH AND PULL FACTORS:

People have moved from their home countries for centuries, for all sorts of reasons. Some find it difficult to remain where they are and migrate because of 'push' factors [Reasons for emigrating (leaving a place) because of a difficulty (such as a food shortage, war, flood, etc.)], others are drawn to new places by 'pull' factors [Reasons for immigrating (moving into a place) because of something desirable (such as a nicer climate, better food supply, freedom, etc.)]. These have contributed to the recent movement of people as well as are the reasons why people emigrate to other countries. Hence, the causes of migration can be seen as a series of push and pull factors—those factors which either forcefully push someone into migration or attract them.

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| • High unemployment rates | • High crime rate |
| • Poor medical care | • Crop failure |
| • Poverty and low incomes | • Drought |
| • Political fear | • Floods |
| • Fear of torture and mistreatment | • Famine |
| • Not being able to practice religion | • Climate change |
| • Loss of wealth | • Internal conflict and war |
| • Lack of services | • Lack of prospects for career advancement |
| • Lack of safety | |

- **Push Factors:** A push factor is a forceful factor which relates to the country the person is migrating from. Push factors are the reasons or negative factors which compel people to leave an area. Different types of push factors include:

- **Pull Factors:** There are a number of pull factors that draw people towards particular countries to seek a better life. A pull factor is something concerning the country a person migrates to. It is generally a good thing that attracts people to a certain place. Pull factors are the reasons why people move to a particular area. They include:

- Higher employment
- More wealth
- Better services
- Good climate
- Security, less crime
- Political stability
- More fertile land
- Lower risk from natural hazards
- Better living standards
- Enjoyment
- Education
- Better medical care
- Family links

REASONS:

Folks frequently tend to travel to foreign countries. In a lot of these cases, the main reason isn't just tourism. Many of them move for good and plan to start their live anew, in a new location. What can possibly motivate one to leave his/her homeplace and search for happiness in a foreign country? What might be the reason to plunge into the unknown leaving all that's familiar behind? The reasons are usually different for people with different characters. It is not just one single reason that induces someone to leave their home for a faraway place, but a complicated interplay of many causes. Let's take a look at some of the reasons why different groups of people choose to immigrate. Some of the most popular reasons are:

1. **Better job and business opportunities:** Many people migrate to different countries in order to find better job opportunities as well as better income. This is more likely to happen when the person's home country has limited opportunities. Therefore, many inhabitants are motivated to relocate because of a good and reliable professional career. Currently, in the state of a severe financial recession, people tend to look for opportunities to move to a country, where the labour market is in a better condition so that they could develop professionally. When one is not given or can't find a decent opportunity locally, he tests his luck globally. Some move for a couple of months or years, while others make this a choice for life.
2. **Financially secured future:** When we see it from an economist point of view, the picture is quite clear, people immigrate to gain 'Financial Stability and Better Future Prospects.' For example, if another country is offering better future anticipations, higher wages and a polished lifestyle, any person would think of immigrating to the other country.
3. **Educational purposes:** Many people move to new countries to study abroad or to complete their studies. They prefer countries that are attired with a huge range of better educational opportunities than are available in their own countries. Be it top-class universities, high schools, colleges, professional institutes or no matter what, students can get themselves enrolled in any of them in accordance with their preference levels. Later on, those people might find it convenient to remain in those new countries they moved to.
4. **High Standard of Living:** Now some people give high emphasis on 'High Standard of Living.' It is often seen that parents send their children abroad to attain a better lifestyle. The reality is that they try their level-best to provide better career prospects and lifestyle to their children which they themselves might not have acquired in their lives. And 'immigration' is the perfect answer to their concerns. Many people travel to get a better quality of life. This is more likely to happen when the quality of life in the person's home country becomes low.
5. **Escape from political pressure:** A wide range of political reasons are arrayed with the term 'immigration.' Many people migrate to escape from the political pressure they are subjected to in their countries. In some countries, for example, freedom of speech is condemned. A person can thus travel to be able to express himself freely. People immigrate to maintain a global presence amongst various countries. Some change their citizenship to gain a new identity, some to get political rights and others for a better living ambience. Wherever the rule of law and fundamental human rights are no longer respected, people are often defenseless, exposed to repression and persecution by state organs.
6. **Environmental factors:** Some people migrate to avoid environmental problems such as floods, earthquakes and other natural disasters that are real threats and disproportionately affect people living in poverty. In fact, Christian Aid reports that 1 billion people could be displaced in the next 50 years as the effects of climate change worsen.
7. **Escape wars:** When a war or any kind of political instability happens,

many people decide to migrate to other countries in order to protect themselves and their families.

8. **Barriers are becoming lower:** In our modern world, travelling has become much easier than it used to be and the internet allows people to connect with their loved ones. As the barriers for travelling became lower, more people decided to migrate.
9. **To start a new life:** Some people migrate because they want to start a new life somewhere else. This usually happens when the person experiences bad things in the country he was living in.
10. **Needs of Different Personalities:** Every person is decked with a different persona. Extroverts and work-oriented personalities are more likely to immigrate alone as compared to those who are introvert and family-oriented. The later ones have higher chances of immigrating with their families, rather than alone.
11. **Start of a Series:** It is a chain of events. The first person migrates and sends 'Happily Settled' information to his loved ones living in the native country. Consequently, others also immigrate to the same country, or probably a better one, to enhance their future prospects. Hence, reports about the successful migration of others from their family or friends motivate many people to pull up their roots. Most people leave their country in the hope of returning one day. Years abroad and life in a world with different values and habits, however, often lead to a loss of ties with their native land.
12. **Religious reasons:** Numerous people are exposed to serious threats by the conditions in their native country: for dissidents the situation may become life threatening when dictatorial powers take over their country. Members of ethnic or religious minorities may be endangered in countries tolerating racist excesses. People who belong to religious minorities in some countries might find themselves oppressed in their home countries. Those people might decide to travel to practice their religious rituals freely.
13. **High cost of living:** Some people leave their countries as the cost of living becomes very high. Those people seek other countries where they can live the same life with less money.
14. **Bad weather conditions:** Some inhabitants migrate because of bad weather conditions. People are really gloomy when the weather is bad and cold. Populace who lives in extremely cold countries, for example, might decide to move to a country with better weather. Therefore, weather has a big effect on people's migration.
15. **Better health care:** Living in a country with limited access to healthcare, when one is suffering from serious health problems, can pose as a threat. Mostly, older people who are in need of special health care might move to countries that are more advanced in medicine.
16. **Marriage:** Love has no boundaries. In today's globalized world, people spend plenty of time in dating websites and long-distance dating is all the rage. But, for couples ready to take the next step down the aisle, migrating to be together is the obvious choice. Hence, various people are finding the prospect of getting married in other countries.
17. **Broadening horizons:** A lot of people want to move abroad, so that they could broaden their horizons. One of the most common reasons for people to travel is to explore new places, meet new people and see different cultures. However, to get really acquainted with a certain culture, one has to spend a little bit more time in that foreign place. Moreover, the tourist falls completely in love with the new country and decides to turn from just a visitor into a permanent resident.

FACTS AND FIGURES:

Since the mid-twentieth century, the nature of migration has largely influenced by globalization. Advances in communication and transportation technology have driven globalization forward, allowing us to live in a world where distances between countries and travel time are no longer as significant an obstacle. There are various other important aspects which displace millions of people across the globe every day and those need to be ponder upon, so as to arrive at a thoughtful conclusion. But, how can we talk about such types of issues if we don't have the facts?

- Disparities between developing and developed nations have accelerated with globalization. In 1900, the ratio of the average income of the five richest countries in the world to the 5-10 poorest countries was about 9:1. Today that ratio is 100:1. These disparities among countries combined with limited opportunities for employment that provide high enough wages to care for one's family has stimulated increased migration from developing to developed nations.

- During 2000-2005, the more developed regions of the world gained an estimated 2.6 million migrants annually from the less developed regions. This amounts to about 13.1 million migrants over the whole period. Northern America gained the most from net migration: 1.4 million migrants annually.
- An Oxford Economics research study published by the Department of Employment and Learning (DEL) concluded that migrant workers had helped maintain an adequate labour supply to fuel the 2004–2008 economic booms. The availability of migrant labour seems to have made the difference between some businesses surviving, or in the case of food processing, not needing to relocate production abroad. The authors quote a survey of 600 businesses where 31% said that migrants were important in the survival of their organisation and this rose to 50% in health and social care and agriculture.
- Over 80 million people in the world have Irish blood; 36.5 million US residents claimed Irish ancestry in 2007. Historically, some were transported or sold into slavery or left because of poverty, hunger, persecution, discrimination, civil war, unemployment and more recently, simply for education and better jobs. Migrant numbers have risen rapidly in the last decade. In 2013 there were thought to be over 230 million international migrants.
- A study conducted by Indian Institute of Management- Bangalore shows that the students going for higher studies abroad has increased by 256% in the last 10 years. When 53,000 Indian students went abroad for higher studies in 2000, the figure shot up to 1.9 lakh in 2010.
- The World Bank's Migration and Remittances Facebook of 2011 lists the following estimates for the year 2010: Total number of immigrants: 215.8 million or 3.2% of world population. In 2013, the percentage of international migrants worldwide increased by 33% with 59% of migrants targeting developed regions. Almost half of these migrants are women, which is one of the most significant migrant-pattern changes in the last half century. Women migrate alone or with their family members and community. Even though female migration is largely viewed as associational rather than independent migration, emerging studies argue complex and manifold reasons for this.
- Most of the world's migrants live in a handful of countries. In 2015, 67 per cent of all international migrants in the world were living in just twenty countries. The largest number of international migrants resided in the United States of America: 47 million, equal to 19 per cent of the world's total. Germany and the Russian Federation hosted the second and third largest numbers of migrants worldwide (around 12 million each), followed by Saudi Arabia (10 million), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (nearly 9 million), and the United Arab Emirates (8 million). Of the top twenty destinations of international migrants worldwide, nine were in Asia, seven in Europe, two in Northern America and one each in Africa and Oceania.
- In Europe, there are 1.3 million people from India, almost double the 665,105 in 2000, according to the International Migration Report (2017). Britain has most of them — 836,524, up from 452,144 in 2000. Canada now has 602,144 people from India, an increase from 319,138 in 2000. Australia showed a huge jump of more than four times, from 90,719 people from India in 2000 to 408,880 now.
- According to UN World Migration Report (2018), Indian diaspora is world's largest, with slightly more than 15.6 million people from India living overseas. The report was released by International Organisation for Migration. The Indian diaspora constitutes 6% of the total number of international migrants (people living outside the country of their birth), which was estimated at 243 million in 2015.

CONCLUSION:

In nutshell, there are many factors that contribute in leading the people to migrate to another country where they in their own minds think is better. All these factors heavily rely on each individual's perspective, persuading them into migrating to another country. Many leave in search of better economic perspectives. The desire for work and an income frequently plays a dominant role in a majority of cases. Migration also has the potential for bringing people together culturally. As the world's borders between countries are loosen and multi-culturism is being practiced more often, the future of frequent migration will bring about a better mutual understanding and make the world a better place. It is development itself that drives migration. Migration has therefore, always been and will remain an inevitable part of the human experience.

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